

Message Text

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46

ACTION EUR-25

INFO OCT-01 ADP-00 EURE-00 INRE-00 M-03 A-01 OPR-02 SY-07

OC-06 CCO-00 NIC-01 CIAE-00 PM-09 H-02 INR-09 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-03 RSC-01 PRS-01 SS-14 USIA-12

NEA-10 GAC-01 MBFR-03 SAJ-01 T-03 RSR-01 ACDA-19 /148 W
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P R 141800 Z MAR 73

FM AMEMBASSY BONN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 3877

SECDEF WASHDC PRIORITY

INFO USNATO 049

USNMR SHAPE

CINCEUR

CINCUSAREUR

CINCUSAFE

AMCONSUL MUNICH

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E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MILI

SUBJ: DEMONSTRATION AT EMBASSY

REF: BONN 3746

1. DEMONSTRATION RE FEUCHT MILITARY TRAINING AREA
TOOK PLACE AS SCHEDULED ON AFTERNOON MARCH 14 AT
THE EMBASSY. THE CROWD, WELL- ORGANIZED AND
PEACEFUL, NUMBERED ABOUT 275 PERSONS BY POLICE
ESTIMATE; ALL APPEARED TO BE WELL- BEHAVED, RESPONSIBLE
GERMAN CITIZENS. THE LOCAL POLICE ASSISTANCE WAS
EXCELLENT AND THE DEMONSTRATION WAS UNMARRED BY
ANY UNUSUAL INCIDENCE.

2. EMBOFFS RECEIVED LORENZ GRAF, NUREMBERG LAWYER WHO
HEADS THE COMMITTEE AGAINST THE TRAINING AREA, AND
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TWO ASSISTANTS. IN FRIENDLY ONE HOUR DISCUSSION GRAF MADE A DETAILED PRESENTATION ABOUT THE TRAINING AREA PROBLEM, EMPHASIZING HIS GROUP'S INTEREST WAS WHOLLY ENVIRONMENTAL IN SCOPE. HE REPEATEDLY ASSURED US THAT THE COMMITTEE'S PROTESTS WERE IN NO WAY MOTIVATED BY ANTI- AMERICANISM OR SENTIMENTS AGAINST THE US FORCES HERE. HE SAID HE FULLY SUPPORTS DEFENSE NEEDS AND APPRECIATES FACT THAT US TROOPS HELP DEFEND FRG. HE STRESSED SEVERAL TIMES THAT HIS COMMITTEE WOULD OPPOSE THE USE OF THE GREEN BELT AROUND NUREMBERG BY ANY AND ALL MILITARY UNITS, INCLUDING THE BUNDESWEHR AS WELL AS INDUSTRIAL OR RESIDENTIAL CONSTRUCTION. HE GAVE US A RESOLUTION OUTLINING THE COMMITTEE'S POSITION WHICH WE WILL REPORT SEPARATELY TO HEIDELBERG WHEN TRANSLATED. OUR IMPRESSION OF GRAF IS THAT WHILE HE MAY BE MOTIVATED BY POLITICAL OPPORTUNISM, INDICATED BY HIS HANDLING ISSUE OF THE TRAINING AREA PROBLEM, HE IS GENERALLY WELL DISPOSED, AS HE CLAIMS, TOWARD THE PRESENCE OF U. S. FORCES IN NUREMBERG.

3. THE ONLY NEWPOINT WHICH AROSE DURING OUR CONVERSATION WITH GRAF WAS HIS REQUEST FOR EMBASSY ASSISTANCE TO PERSUADE USAREUR TO ACCEPT TRAINING AREAS 20 KILIMETERS OR MORE BEYOND THE LOCATION OF TROOP BARRACKS. GRAF INSISTED THAT ANY SOLUTION TO THE NUREMBERG TRAINING AREA PROBLEM COULD NOT BE BASED ON THE USE OF AREAS IN OR AROUND THE REICHSWALD AND FEUCHT. HE THOUGHT THAT THE DEFENSE MINISTRY COULD RELATIVELY EASILY FIND AN ACCEPTABLE TRAINING AREA MORE DISTANT THAN 20 KILOMETERS FROM NUREMBERG, BUT CURRENT USAREUR POLICY WOULD NOT PERMIT SUCH A SOLUTION.

4. WE TOLD GRAF THAT WE WERE NOT FAMILIAR WITH USAREUR POSITION ON THE MATTER OR WHETHER IN FACT SUITABLE TRAINING AREA COULD BE FOUND OUTSIDE 20 KILOMETERS OF NUREMBERG. IN ANY CASE, WE IMPRESSED UPON HIM THAT THIS WAS A MATTER OF FRG COMPETENCE, AS POINTED OUT IN FONOFF PRESS RELEASE TODAY (WHICH WE ARE SENDING SEPTEL. HILLENBRAND

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